



# Smithsonian Institution

Office of General Counsel

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL: 64346-64989613@requests.muckrock.com

December 7, 2018

Michelle Malkin  
MuckRock

Re: Your Request for Smithsonian Records (request number 52039)

Dear Ms. Malkin:

The Office of General Counsel acknowledges your request, dated and received in this Office on November 27, 2018, for Smithsonian records pertaining to "the investigations of the May 26, 2017 noose found outside the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden and the May 31, 2017 noose discovered inside the National Museum of African American History and Culture."

Please be advised that the Smithsonian responds to requests for records in accordance with its written policy, *Requests for Smithsonian Institution Information*. A copy of this policy is available on the Smithsonian website at <http://www.si.edu/OGC/Records-Requests>. The Smithsonian applies a presumption of disclosure when processing records requests, subject to applicable exemptions stated in its policy.

The Smithsonian makes every effort to provide responses to records requests as quickly as possible, taking into account the complexity of each request and that requests are handled on a first-in, first-out basis in relation to other requests in the same track.<sup>1</sup> Your request has been assigned to the complex track. Staff may contact you to discuss clarifying your request if it appears to be written too broadly to initiate a reasonable search.

Please feel free to contact me at 202.633.5115 if you have questions or have not received a final response to your request within ninety business days. You may refer to your file by your name or request number, which is 52039.

Sincerely,

David Larson  
Assistant General Counsel

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<sup>1</sup> Incoming requests are assigned to one of three tracks as specified in the Smithsonian's disclosure policy. Simple requests usually receive a response in less than a month, whereas complex requests necessarily take longer. In an effort to speed up our records search and response time, you may wish to contact us to narrow the scope of your request.